(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (e) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has examined utilisation of ground water by soft drink units located at Plachimada village, Palakkad district, Kerala and at Kaladera, Rajasthan. As per CGWB, declining trends in ground water levels in the range of 0.02 m/yr to 0.9 m/yr and average 1.43 m/yr has been observed in an around soft drink units located at Plachimada village, Palakkad district, Kerala and at Kaladera, Rajasthan, respectively. This declining trend cannot be attributed only to ground water withdrawal by soft drink manufacturing units. The declining trend in ground water level is a cumulative effect of the ground water withdrawal for irrigation, domestic and industrial purposes.

Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government to take remedial steps to check over-exploitation of ground water. The following remedial measures are also envisaged in this regard by the Central Government:

(i) Regulation of ground water withdrawal.

(ii) Adopting artificial recharge.

(iii) Treatment and recycling of industrial waste water.

The CGWB has been asked to conduct special detailed studies to work out the actual volume of ground water used for the purposes of irrigation, domestic and industries with a view to know the factual position of use of ground water and its impact on ground water regime.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Feeder Airline in West Bengal

696. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any proposal from the Government of West-Bengal for establishing a feeder airline within the State; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard alongwith the present position of the case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (A) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Advance Passenger Information System**

697. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Civil Aviation has sent a note to the Cabinet for its approval for introduction of Advance Passenger Information System which helps the immigration officials to get information about the passengers well before the aircraft reaches its destination;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry of Civil Aviation proposes to do away with baggage X-Ray of incoming passengers; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government, with a view to streamline facilitation procedures at Indian airports, is deliberating on certain proposals which *inter-alia* include introduction of Advance Passenger Information System and a review of baggage X-Ray of incoming passengers, in line with latest liberalized import export regime and international practices.

**Revamping of Alliance Air's Fleet**

698. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has taken a decision to go in for dry leasing of A-319 aircrafts to revamp the fleet of its wholly-owned subsidiary Alliance Air;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the salient features of A-319 aircrafts; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the agreement to be signed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) :(a) to (c) Indian Airlines has a proposal to